

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-20 (canceled)

21. (new) Process for the production of an organomineral fertilizer, the process comprising intimately mixing mineral fertilizer material, urea, a lignin compound and organic fertilizer material thereby providing a blend, and heating the blend, wherein the organic fertilizer material comprises manure.

22. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the organomineral fertilizer comprises 20-80 wt.% mineral fertilizer material, 2-40 wt.% urea, 20-80 wt.% organic fertilizer material and 0.5-5 wt.% of a lignin compound based on the total weight of the organomineral fertilizer.

23. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the mineral fertilizer material comprises one or more of diammonium phosphate (DAP), monoammonium phosphate (MAP), phosphate rock, potassium chloride (MOP), potassium sulphate (SOP), single superphosphate (SSP), triplesuperphosphate (TSP), ammonium sulphate (AS), ammonium chloride, iron sulphate and magnesium sulphate.

24. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the organic fertilizer material comprises one or more of poultry manure, chicken manure, cattle manure, pig manure and optionally one or more of vegetable residues of litter, green waste, mushrooms, peanut hulls, coconut hulls, cacao-hulls, and grass.

25. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the organic fertilizer material is pre-treated, and wherein the pre-treatment comprises drying the organic fertilizer material.

26. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the lignin compound is a powder or a liquid.

27. (new) Process according to claim 21, comprising:

- a) blending mineral fertilizer material, urea, and organic fertilizer material;
- b) blending a lignin compound with the fertilizer blend obtained at a);
- c) warming and moistening the blend obtained at b);
- d) heating the blend obtained at c).

28. (new) Process according to claim 27, wherein the warming and moistening at c) of the blend obtained at b) comprises leading steam into the blend.

29. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the heating of the blend is performed by pelletising the blend and optionally heating the blend.

30. (new) Process according to claim 29, wherein pelletising is performed at pressures between 90 and 120 bar.

31. (new) Process according to claim 21, further comprising cooling, crushing and sieving the product obtained after heating, and coating sieved particles obtained after sieving.

32. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the lignin compound comprises one or more of lignin and lignosulfonate.

33. (new) Process according to claim 21, wherein the pH during blending is maintained between 6 and 7.5.

34. (new) Organomineral fertilizer comprising mineral fertilizer material, urea, organic fertilizer material and a lignin compound obtained by the process according to claim 21.

35. (new) Organomineral fertilizer according to claim 34, comprising 20-80 wt.% mineral fertilizer material, 2-40 wt.% urea, 20-80 wt.% organic fertilizer material and 0.5-5 wt.% of a lignin compound based on the total weight of the organomineral fertilizer.

36. (new) Organomineral fertilizer according to claim 34, comprising 25 to 75 wt.% of water-soluble organic nitrogen, 15 to 70 wt.% water-soluble mineral nitrogen and 5 to 25 wt.% of water-insoluble organic nitrogen of the total-N content of the organomineral fertilizer.